

Reference 3

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(54) EDIBLE TRANSFER PRINTING INK

(57)Abstract:

PURPOSE: To provide an edible transfer printing ink which is applicable to a variety of foods, prepared by adding a solvent-insoluble edible powder to a liquid composition consisting of shellac, a solvent for it and an edible coloring matter.

CONSTITUTION: Edible powder which is insoluble in solvent for shellac is added to a film-forming liquid composition consisting of shellac, a solvent for it and an edible coloring matter in an amount of 1-1,000 pts.wt. per 100 pts.wt. shellac. The shellac has so far been used in food industry as a harmless additive for natural foods. Preferred solvent is ethyl alcohol which has high solvency power on shellac. The edible powder includes sugar alcohol such as α -starch and corn starch, saccharose such as glucose and lactose and natural gum such as vegetable and microbial polysaccharides.

Sole Claim:

Edible transfer ink of a film-forming liquid composition consisting of shellac, a solvent for it and an edible coloring matter, wherein edible powder insoluble in the solvent is added in an amount of 1-1,000 pts.wt. per 100 pts.wt. shellac.

(page 2, left and upper column, line 3 – right and lower column, line 14)

Any known natural or synthetic coloring matters may be optionally selected.

The edible powder includes starch materials, sugar alcohols, sugars, polysaccharides, sodium carboxymethylcellulose, methylcellulose, sodium alginate, propyleneglycol ester of alginic acid, and crystalline cellulose, edible wax, etc.

Plasticizer for shellac may be added in the present composition, such as glycerin, propyleneglycol, glycerin fatty acid ester, sorbitan fatty acid ester, and sugar esters.

The edible transfer ink of the present invention may be applied on a transfer substrate by flexographic printing or gravure printing.